INDIANA GIS INITIATIVE

2001 Quarterly Meeting Schedule

Friday, July 20, 2001
9:30-11:30 am INGISI
Quarterly Meeting
1-4 pm Indiana Geographic
Information Council
Business Meeting

Friday October 19, 2001
9:30-11:30 am INGISI
Quarterly Meeting
1-4 pm Indiana Geographic
Information Council
Business Meeting

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

You're invited to attend the next Indiana GIS Initiative meeting from 9:30am to 11:30 am on **Friday July 20, 2001**. A pre-meeting ice-breaker will start at 9:00 am. The meeting will be held at the Indiana Farm Bureau Building, Assembly Hall B, Indian-apolis, IN. The Indiana Farm Bureau is lo-cated at 225 S. East Street in downtown Indi-anapolis.

AGENDA
1.   Introductions
2.   Indiana Geographic Information Council Report
3.   Standards and Recommendations Committee— Review and comments on draft standards/recommendations: Projections/Coord. Systems, Datums, Scale and Accuracy
4.   Data Sharing Committee—I-Team Framework Data Investigation, I-Team

Plan tasks
5.   Framework data questionnaire — summary report of results
6.   Conference Committee— Winter 2002 GIS Conference planning under way (see page 6 for details)
9. Hamilton County GIS—Project Profile (see page 2)
10. SAVI Interactive: Social Assets and Vulnerabilities Indicators—Project Pro-file (see page 2)
11. Additional comments / open floor.

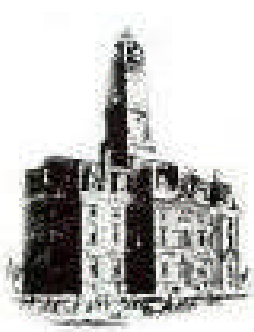# INDIANA LAND RESOURCES COUNCIL SUPPORTS STATEWIDE GIS CLEARINGHOUSE

In June, the Indiana Land Resource Council awarded a grant to The Polis Center at IU-PUI to develop, in coordination with the Indiana Geographic Information Council, a strategic assessment and system design for a statewide GIS clearinghouse and Internet mapping system. Over the next few months, Polis staff will be identifying stakeholders and conducting an assessment of needs and capacities.

Indiana's increasing population and expand-ing economy are placing unprecedented pres-sure on its land. Urban sprawl — particularly

the paving of large segments of the land-scape — can significantly impact our natural resources.

In Indiana, land use is a local decision. Com-munities all over the state are discussing property rights, zoning options and new developments. Decisions are being made about residential development in rural areas, new services, protection of prime farmland, impact of increased traffic and preservation of natural resources. Finding the best solu-tions to these complex issues requires educa-tion,

PROJECT PROFILES BEING DEMONSTRATED AT NEXT INGISI MEETING

Hamilton County GIS: Public Access to Public Information
Providing Information Cost Effectively

"Providing Information Cost Effectively" was part of the mission statement adopted by the Hamilton County GIS Policy Committee on May 22, 1996. The GIS Policy Committee was just two weeks old at the time, and set the ambitious goal of implementing a geographic information system (GIS) for the fastest growing county in Indiana.

The Hamilton County GIS Policy Committee initially included the County Assessor, the County Auditor, the County Surveyor, the Director of the Plan Commission, the Highway Engineer, the Manager of Information Systems Services, and one member of the Board of Commissioners. The GIS Manager is an advisory member and acts as secretary to the committee. Recently, the county expanded the committee to include the Administrator of the Health Department and one member of the County Council. This is not a statutory committee, but a group of department heads and elected officials who believe by working together they can maximize the benefits of GIS for Hamilton County. The first goal for GIS in Hamilton County was to share data within county government, to reduce or eliminate the duplication of effort between various offices and departments, and to increase efficiency. Accom-

plishing the first goal put Hamilton County in a position to provide better public access to public information.

"Public Access to Public Information" was also a part of the GIS Policy Committee's mission statement. When different organizations share a common base map, they can exchange data more easily because it all fits together. As layers are added to the digital map, its value becomes greater than the sum of its parts.

As the digital map was being produced, Hamilton County decided to share it with the cities, towns, and not-for-profit utilities in the county at no charge. In return, the county requested the recipients to share with Hamilton County any new map features they created. The county also decided to provide the digital map to engineers, surveyors, developers, investor-owned utilities, and others for a nominal fee. Within a year, the map data had become so popular, it was nearly a full time job to fill the requests. At this point, Hamilton County decided to put the digital map on its web site in several popular CAD formats for free downloading. Relieving the staff from filling data requests was almost like adding a new employee.

Social Assets and Vulnerabilities Indicators
Community Service Council of the United Way of Central Indiana and The Polis Center

The Social Assets and Vulnerabilities Indicators (SAVI) project has created common ground upon which collaboration and coordination of local officials and planners is facilitated. The SAVI project includes creation of a comprehensive database of social indicators from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Statistical Area that human service agencies and community organizations can use for planning, research, and evaluation. By organizing commonly requested data into a simplified database for wide community use, SAVI facilitates communication between local agencies and helps them discuss issues at the same scale. Local officials can more easily see where data needs and resources overlap. Furthermore, by creating a common source for reference geographies, such as school districts, transportation routes,

health department districts, and services areas, SAVI reduces redundancy in data development efforts and ensures that agencies are working with the same reference information. SAVI draws information from a wide variety of sources, including census, criminal justice, health, vital statistics, education, welfare, social service agencies, service delivery catchment areas, churches, libraries, and other community facilities, and attitudinal surveys. SAVI links data to census tract geography for map display and analysis -- taking advantage of sophisticated computer technology that enables intuitive analyses of complex information. The SAVI project represents an ongoing collaboration between the United Way of Central Indiana/Community Service Council (UW/CSC), and The Polis Center at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.

ESRI, NACo HELP COUNTY GOVERNMENTS STAY ON TRACK WITH TECHNOLOGY:

New Grant Program Offers Introductory and Intermediate GIS Packages

Congratulations to LaPorte County, Indiana—a "first phase" grant recipient of the ESRI/NACo GIS Starter Kit.

(ESRI Press Release) Redlands, California— The National Association of Counties (NACo) and ESRI, the world leader in geographic information system (GIS) technology and a NACo Premier Business Partner, have launched the Technology Foundation Grant Series to provide GIS software, training, support, and data to qualified NACo members seeking to initiate and expand their technology infrastructure.

To bridge the technology gap and supplement county governments' efforts in that area, the series offers grants valued at more than $2.5 million for GIS in two packages— an introductory level program for counties without an existing GIS and an intermediate level program aimed at counties wishing to augment their GIS and staff proficiency.

The announcement of the grants came during the NACo Legislative Conference inWashington, D.C., March 5. "One of my top priorities as NACo president is to help counties improve the delivery of services by using technology," said Jane Hague, NACo president and King County, Washington, council member. "GIS gives counties the means to operate with efficiency and technological savvy in a multitude of ways. I am ecstatic that we are able to partner with ESRI to provide GIS grants that are worth $2.5 million to counties."

NACo will administer the Technology Foundation Grant Series and award 200 introductory grants and 100 intermediate grant packages. Counties participating in the program will be asked to contribute information documenting their experiences in implementing the technology. NACo and ESRI will jointly issue a Best Practice Guide that records the methods and procedures used by the grant recipients to help form a peer exchange network.

"The timing is right for these grants," says Christopher Thomas, ESRI state and local government industry representative. "County governments are rapidly turning to GIS as a staple for providing county government services, and ESRI is ready to provide the kind of all-around GIS education and support that the NACo membership needs. The introductory grants will benefit the 'have-nots,' while theintermediate program will help those counties that have already embarked in GIS to solidify their programs and migrate it to other service areas."

The award period is from March 5, 2001, through April 1, 2002, and the awards will be announced in three phases—on April 30, 2001; September 1, 2001; andApril 30, 2002. For information about how to apply for the program, contact Andrew Goldschmit, NACo membership director and project coordinator, at 202-942-4221 or agoldsch@naco.org or Betty Thomas, project coordinator, at 202-942-4209 or bthomas@naco.org.

NEW STATEWIDE GIS STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Indiana Geographic Information Council Executive Committee has approved the **Indiana Metadata Standard**—Indiana's 1st statewide GIS standard.

The Indiana Geographic Information Council Standards and Recommendations Committee has released **2 new draft standards/ recommendations for public comment and review**. Please forward your comments to the committee co-chairs Larry Stout (lcs@mail.co.hamilton.in.us) or Jim Sparks

(jisparks@iupui.edu) by July 19, 2001.

The draft standards/recommendations can be found at
http://www.state.in.us/ingisi/about_us/ standards_and_recommendations.html
Under the headings "ANNOUNCEMENTS" refer to "OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: DRAFT Map Scale and Accuracy Standard" and "OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: DRAFT Projections, Datum, and Coordinate System Standard"

STATEWIDE DOQQS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

Framework data are part of the infrastructure" of a GIS. Framework data are the base for comprehensive statewide data coverage, such as facilities, health, transportation and land use. An example of an existing, valuable statewide framework dataset is the Indiana Digital Orthophotography Quarter Quadrangles (DOQQs). DOQQs commonly serve as reference data in GIS systems since they provide a geographically referenced birds-eye snapshot of the land. Indiana's DOQQs have recently been completed statewide and are produced and maintained by the US Geological Survey (USGS) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Recently, Internet distribution of the DOQQs has been made available from two university sites in Indiana. Both IU and Purdue now provide Internet access to these important data.

From IU, users can retrieve either the 45 MB raw files that readily display in ArcView from IU's website, or the multi-resolution, compressed MrSID format. Free viewers are available for MrSID format in addition to browser plugins. The limitation in accessing this data is the end user's bandwidth. The IU site is a tape library, so there may be a delay after the desired image is chosen before it starts downloading.

From Purdue, users can retrieve the compressed MrSID format for DOQQs for much of the state. Purdue is also making CDs of its compressed images that people may purchase. Contact Dr. Jane Frankenberger at 765-494-1194 or frankenb@ecn.purdue.edu for more info.

The web site addresses are as follows:

Indiana University—
http://storage.iu.edu/DOQQS/
(raw orthophotos & 20:1 MrSID compressed)

Purdue—
http://danpatch.ecn.purdue.edu/~caagis/ftp/gisdata/data.html
  (10:1 MrSID compressed)

MrSID free data viewer and plug-ins—
http://www.lizardtech.com

DOQQ excerpt from Richmond, IN.

2001 GIS SEMINAR SERIES

The Polis Center and the Indiana Geographic Information Council are co-sponsoring a 2001 GIS Seminar Series to be held on the IUPUI campus. The Seminar Series focuses on cross-cutting topics relating to spatial data and information bringing in speakers from across the state and nation. The next topics in the series are:

Enhanced Public Access to Spatial Data: For Fee or For Free?

Differing views about charging the public for enhanced access to spatial data will be presented during this two-hour panel discussion. This seminar will also present information about those Indiana statutes that address data access issues, including answers to: What are government units allowed to charge for copying data? What data is exempt from public disclosure? What are the "electronic map" and "enhanced access" funds and how should they be used? Time will allowed for audience interaction with the panel.

July 31
1 to 4:30 p.m.

GIS and E-government: The Realm of Possibilities

Every day, the importance of E-commerce, E-government, and the general shift to a digital economy becomes more evident. Information has assumed a new, central, creative and supportive role for business, government and education. GIS technology can and should play a vital role in this development. This seminar will offer many examples of how GIS has already been incorporated into an E-government setting both within Indiana and outside of the state. In addition, strategies for state and local government agencies to become active participants and beneficiaries of the opportunities available from the adoption of E-government will be presented.

August 30
1 to 4:30 p.m.

GIS for Research and Teaching

Geographic Information System (GIS) technology can be a valuable tool for research and education. Analysis of spatial data can support existing research agendas or, in some cases, yield information that will suggest new research directions. It can also be a useful tool in the classroom for explaining concepts that have a spatial component. Important technical and analytical support resources that are available to academic faculty, researchers, and librarians will be identified. The course also will address the potential for research and educational funding of projects involving GIS.

September 25
1 to 4 p.m.

How to Fund Your GIS

One of the most challenging components to developing GIS within an organization is funding. This seminar will present a variety of options on how to meet this challenge. Special attention will be paid to the availability of funding from local, state and federal granting agencies. In addition, strategies for funding of GIS through development of partnerships with local agencies will be presented.

October 23
1 to 4 p.m.

Seminars will be held at University Library, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, 325 University Blvd. The cost to attend is $30. Call or email The Polis Center to register or for more information (317) 274-2455, or e-mail polis@iupui.edu.

INDIANA LAND RESOURCES COUNCIL

communication and individual involvement.

The Indiana Land Resources Council is charged with providing technical assistance and resources to local communities on land use tools and strategies. Part of that strategy is supporting a statewide data catalog and GIS clearinghouse. Funding from the Land Resources Council will be leveraged as matching funds to other sources for future pilot implementation.

For more information about this project, please contact Jill Saligoe-Simmel (317) 274-2458 or jsaligoe@iupui.edu.

The Polis Center
We bring things into perspective.

Indiana GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION COUNCIL

Located at **The Polis Center**
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We're on the Web!
www.state.
in.us/ingisi

indiana GIS Initiative

INGISI welcomes your feedback. To submit an article, information or event to the INGISI Newsletter or E-calendar, contact Jill Saligoe-Simmel Chair, Indiana Geographic Information Council
jsaligoe@iupui.edu
317.274.2458

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! INDIANA GIS 2002 CONFERENCE

"Indiana GIS 2002: Moving to the Main Stream" will be held February 28—March 1, 2002 at the Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel and Suites. Features of the conference include a variety of workshops, exhibitors, session tracts, reception, poster session, keynote speaker and luncheon. Planning for the 2002 GIS conference represents the hard work and dedication of several volunteers to continue to improve the conference over previous years. Upcoming planning activities will include a call for session papers.

The Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel & Suites boasts the city's most prestigious location, Keystone at the Crossing. Convenient to downtown and Indianapolis Airport, this Northside landmark is the perfect location for individual travelers & groups of any size. The 12 story tower offers 560 spacious rooms & suites connected by skywalk to the 130 shop Fashion Mall. The prestigious Northside location provides easy access to exciting sports attractions, interesting cultural events, and all that Indianapolis has to offer.

So mark your calendars now and be sure to attend the next INGISI statewide GIS conference!! For more information contact the Conference Committee co-chairs, Mike Machlan ((219) 293-2572; mmachlan@yahoo.com) or Paul Irwin ((812) 855-3951;irwinp@indiana.edu).